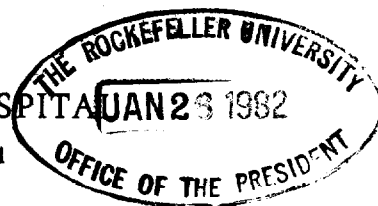




THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL  
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PHYSICIAN-IN-CHIEF

25 January 1982

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
President  
The Rockefeller University

Dear Josh:

Thanks for the article entitled "Scientists explore drug metabolism/age relationship". It was interesting - especially the part where they don't mention the fact that it was our laboratory which discovered that children at an early postnatal (2-4 yrs) age metabolize drugs much more "vigorously" (as they say) relative to their body weight than do adults. I guess this phenomenon has been now rediscovered by somebody else.

Along these lines there was a lead article in the New England Journal of Medicine on primary biliary cirrhosis, a truly unique, debilitating and lethal form of liver disease in which not one reference in the paper reached back beyond 1977, and nearly every other one was dated 1980 or 1981. In all this there was not the slightest hint from the list of references that this complex liver disorder was discovered and pathologically and biochemically beautifully defined by Ahrens and Kunkel here in the 1950s, when they wrote a superb monograph on this disorder in one of the most widely read journals, "Medicine" edited at Hopkins. It really does seem to be a "what have you done lately" kind of world.

Yours sincerely,

  
Attallah Kappas, M.D.      ↓